



bidm no. 11548, item 3

A Statement of Facts!!

IN consequence of the report in circulation on December 30th, and since, that I had intentionally concealed several cases of the Small Pox, then on Chesnut Street, a few rods from the Nashua Cotton Mills, thereby maliciously exposing the interest, health and lives of many of our citizens, and others from the adjacent towns; and from the fact that in consequence of said report, that an assault was made upon my person in the street, by a citizen of Nashua, and threats of further violence being made by other persons, the undersigned feels himself called upon to make public a brief statement of some of the leading facts in the case relative to the Small Pox in Nashua.

About the middle of Oct. I was invited to look at Mrs Eayrs, who had been sick about two weeks. The attending Physician called the disease the Chicken Pox—I told them the disease was the Small Pox, and on that day I offered to pay the expense of getting a Physician from Lowell or Boston, if such Physician did not pronounce the disease to be the Small Pox.

Three days after Dr Smith of Boston pronounced the disease to be the Small Pox.—Some days after, I reported to the proper town authorities that a gentleman in this village, whom I named, had the symptoms of the Small Pox, and that the eruption was out. Some days afterwards I advised this gentleman to keep his chamber until he could go out without exposing his friends to the Small Pox, which he did. A short time after I reported to Mr Thomas W. Gillis, the case of a girl who I thought then, and think now, had the modified Small Pox. Seven different Physicians saw this girl, four of whom thought it was the Chicken Pox, and three thought it the modified Small Pox. The girl was suffered to remain where she was, and after a little time, went to her work in the Factory—although many of the scabs caused by the disease remained upon her.

On Sunday December 24, I was called to see Mrs Center, who was sick. I then saw for the first time, Mary Center who had been sick, as she informed me, two weeks, with a disease which I call the Small Pox. On the same day I was called to the family of Mr Hue Smith. I then found Mrs Smith and child sick with a mild form of the same disease that I saw at Mr Center's. They told me they had been exposed to the disease at Mr Center's, having been there. On Monday morning, Dec. 25th, Deacon E. Barrett called and inquired what the disease was in Mr Center's and Mr Smith's families. I told him the disease was similar in the two families, and that some might call it the Chicken Pox as in other cases, but that I called them fair cases of the Small Pox, and requested him to name the same to the Selectmen and ask them to examine the cases, which he says he did, as the following will show:—

DEA. BARRETT'S STATEMENT.

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN. As there was a rumor in my neighborhood that the Small Pox was in the family of Mr Hue Smith, I felt it my duty to inform the Selectmen, and on Monday morning, Dec. 25th, I called at the house of Mr John Eayrs, and he was not at home. I then called on Dr C. Cutter, to inquire of him if Mr Smith's child had the Small Pox or not, and he said it was a fair case of the Small Pox, and that Mrs Center on Ches-

nut street had the Small Pox. I then inquired if the Selectmen knew it. He said—'I don't know; you had better go and tell them.' I went and found Mr P. Foster, and he went and found Dr Spalding, and told him to go and see—and I went with Dr Spalding to Mr Smith's, and he said the child had not the Small Pox. Mr Amos Grey asked Dr Spalding if he would say he knew it was not the Small Pox. He, Dr Spalding, said he *knew* it was *not* the Small Pox. I then told Dr Spalding I would go and show him where Mrs Center was—at the same time I told Dr Spalding that Dr Cutter said that the disease was the same. He, Dr Spalding, said, 'I think there is no use in going.'

ELEAZER BARRETT.

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE.

HILLSBOROUGH SS.

Nashua, January 1, 1838.

Eleazer Barrett appeared and made oath, that the foregoing certificate, by him subscribed, is true.

ISRAEL HUNT, Jr. Justice Peace.

After the decision of the Selectmen, by their medical adviser, Dr Spalding, I gave such medical attention to the sick persons as I deemed their cases required, at all times taking such precautions to prevent communicating the disease to my friends, as Dr Smith when here, said was proper and sufficient.

On Thursday the 28th, four days after I reported the case, the Selectmen became convinced—so did their medical adviser, Dr Spalding—that the disease was the Small Pox, of which there was half a dozen cases in all, and Mr Foster asked me if I deemed it prudent to remove them. I told him all could be removed with safety to the patients, except Mrs Center. Nothing further was said to me about removing them until Saturday, Dec. 30, when Mr Eben M'Intire came to see me about it, and then I stated that my opinion might be wrong, and that I was willing to submit it to all the Physicians in town and let them decide. This he said was fair and satisfactory. No person ever asked my opinion of their being removed, except Mr Foster and Mr M'Intire, and this is the substance of our talk. As I caused notice of the disease, and my opinion, to be communicated to the Selectmen within eighteen hours of the time I first saw it—and as they investigated the matter with their medical adviser, Dr Spalding, as far as they saw fit and proper—I do not feel that I *intentionally, maliciously or ignorantly* exposed the community to a contagious disease, although the operatives in the Nashua Manufacturing Company and neighbors have been exposed daily to the Small Pox contagion, for three weeks or more.

I will close by adding that I have reported all the cases of Small Pox that I have seen, to the neighbors and others, when I deemed there was the least danger of communicating the disease, and this I shall continue to do on the corporations, to the Agent and elsewhere to the neighbors, as it would be as censurable to neglect so to do, as it would be to conceal the Small Pox, by intentionally or ignorantly calling it the Chicken Pox, thereby jeopardizing the health and lives of the community.

CALVIN CUTTER.

Nashua, January 4, 1838.

